Political Science Courses (POLI)

This is a list of all political science courses. For more information, see Political Science.

POLI:1000 First-Year Seminar 1 s.h.
Small discussion class taught by a faculty member; topics chosen by instructor; may include outside activities (e.g., films, lectures, performances, readings, visits to research facilities). Requirements: first- or second-semester standing.

POLI:1001 Introduction to Politics 3 s.h.
Introduction to selected processes, institutions, or behaviors central to the study of politics.

POLI:1002 Lawyers in the American Political System 3 s.h.
Training and careers of lawyers; various roles they play in the American political system. Requirements: no prior enrollment in POLI:3150 with subtitle Lawyers in the American Political System.

POLI:1050 Big Ideas: Introduction to Information, Society, and Culture 3 s.h.
What is information? What does it teach us about societies and cultures? How is information used to shape societies and even personal preferences? What types of information are there and how can we understand and use them? Students work with faculty from multiple disciplines to investigate these questions using inquiry-based activities to build success in critical thinking and teamwork. GE: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning. Same as RELS:1050.

POLI:1100 Introduction to American Politics 3 s.h.
Structure and processes of American national government; how the United States manages political conflict; impact of the U.S. Constitution; effect of public opinion, interest groups, and media on government; role and evolution of Congress, presidency, bureaucracy, and Supreme Court. GE: Social Sciences.

POLI:1200 Introduction to Political Behavior 3 s.h.
Patterns and basis of political behavior of American electorate; trends in voter turnout; vote choice; ideology, partisanship, and public opinion. GE: Social Sciences.

POLI:1300 Introduction to Political Thought and Action 3 s.h.
Common problems, literature, analytic techniques. GE: Social Sciences; Values and Culture.

POLI:1400 Introduction to Comparative Politics 3 s.h.
Politics worldwide, including all regions and levels of development; wide-ranging themes, including regime types, political change, political culture, public opinion, government structures, state-society relationship, electoral systems, public policy issues. GE: International and Global Issues; Social Sciences.

POLI:1401 Introduction to the Politics of Russia and Eurasia 3 s.h.
Political dynamics in postcommunist countries of east-central Europe and Eurasia; imperial legacies, ideology and practice of communist politics, patterns of democracy and authoritarianism. GE: International and Global Issues; Social Sciences.

POLI:1403 Introduction to Politics in the Muslim World 3 s.h.
Processes of politics and government in pivotal countries of the Muslim world; foundations of Islam, legacies of Western imperialism, regime types, regional conflicts, oppositional organizations; domestic and foreign policy; selected countries include Syria, Iran, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, and Israel. GE: International and Global Issues; Social Sciences.

POLI:1445 Introduction to Asian Politics: China 3 s.h.
How sociopolitical life in China is shaped by political structure, economic modernization, and traditional political culture; topics include historical, political, economic, and social conditions in contemporary China; course objectives are to broaden student's horizons in global affairs by learning about a foreign country that seems completely different and to sharpen student's analytical and communication skills. GE: International and Global Issues; Social Sciences.

POLI:1449 Introduction to European Politics 3 s.h.
Political institutions, processes of selected European countries. GE: International and Global Issues; Social Sciences.

POLI:1500 Introduction to International Relations 3 s.h.
Survey of key issues in international relations, including causes of wars, different types of theories of international relations, international organizations, and global environmental problems. GE: International and Global Issues; Social Sciences.

POLI:1501 Introduction to American Foreign Policy 3 s.h.
Foreign policies: goals, basic themes and general patterns, problems encountered by policy makers, means employed in dealing with other nations and international organizations, processes by which policies are formulated, factors that influence structure of policies. GE: International and Global Issues; Social Sciences.

POLI:1600 Introduction to Political Communication 3 s.h.
Institutions, dynamics, issues of political communities considered as networks of communication; representative topics include political actors, ads, films, media, myths, news, publics, regulations, rhetorics, symbols. GE: Social Sciences.

POLI:1601 Introduction to Social Media and Politics 3 s.h.
Politics in news, culture, commerce, campaigns, and government with attention to current media (e.g., cinema, internet, print, television). GE: Diversity and Inclusion.

POLI:1700 Introduction to Political Analysis 3 s.h.
Tools necessary to analyze and solve puzzles in politics (i.e., Why do countries go to war rather than negotiate? Why do lifelong enemies become allies? Why do majorities act irrationally?); questions approached from a quantitative perspective (unlike most political analyses), in particular, game theory—a branch of mathematics that investigates how rational players act in situations (like those in politics) of strategic interaction. GE: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning.

POLI:1800 Introduction to the Politics of Class and Inequality 3 s.h.
Introduction to issues of class and economic inequality in the U.S. and other countries; what class and economic inequality are, debates surrounding these definitions, and attempts to measure both of these concepts; research and arguments on economic and political explanations of economic inequality; different policies aimed at reducing economic inequality and debates over them. GE: Diversity and Inclusion.
POLI:1900 Introduction to the Politics of Race 3 s.h.
Introduction to politics of race in the U.S.; history of racial and
ethnic groups in the U.S., their relationship with each other,
and their interactions with different levels of government. GE:
Diversity and Inclusion.

POLI:2000 Designing Political Research 3 s.h.
How research is conducted on politics and government;
students examine different research approaches (both
qualitative and quantitative), learn how to read and
understand published research on politics, demonstrate
an understanding of different research approaches, and
understand, interpret, and critically analyze published
research on politics.

POLI:2107 Black Literature and Politics: Controversies of National Allegiance 3 s.h.
Black literature born amid political controversy, from slave
narratives to award-winning texts of late 20th century;
evolving politics of African American writers; changing
political landscape of this expansive period and representative
literature; how African American writers shape U.S. political
debate; surprising politics of many canonical African American
writers. English majors may apply this course to the following
area and/or period requirement. AREA: American Literature
and Culture. PERIOD: Varies by semester. Same as AFAM:2781,
ENGL:2460.

POLI:2415 Latin American Politics 3 s.h.
Governmental institutions, major interest groups; focus on area
as a whole. GE: International and Global Issues; Social
Sciences. Same as LAS:2415.

POLI:2416 Revolutions and Political Violence 3 s.h.
Analysis of protest, insurgency, and rebellion for political
change; studies the drivers of participation, group
organization, government responses, and outcomes of these
movements (including both failed and successful revolutions);
how and why does the use of political violence vary, and what
are the political consequences of the use of violence; explores
theoretical material and case studies from across the world.

POLI:2417 Comparative Environmental Policy 3 s.h.
Analysis of environmental policy and governance outcomes
across and within countries and contexts; causes and
consequences of environmental policy differences; effects of
government structure, society, and natural resource
conditions on policy development, implementation, and
environmental outcomes.

POLI:3000 Analyzing Political Data 3 s.h.
Creating knowledgeable evaluators of current research in
political science; interpretation of different quantitative
techniques with examples from current political science
research.

POLI:3001 Hawkeye Poll 3 s.h.
Basics of survey design, sampling, question wording,
interpreting responses, and writing press releases; students
work together to help design questions as part of the Hawkeye
Poll, a collaborative teaching and research enterprise in the
Department of Political Science.

POLI:3050 Problems in Methods arr.
Problems in political science research methods; data
collection, interpretation, analysis.

POLI:3100 American State Politics 3 s.h.
Approaches to analysis of political behavior in American
state governments; emphasis on cultures, parties, actors,
processes, issues.

POLI:3101 American Constitutional Law and Politics 3 s.h.
Role of U.S. Supreme Court in American political system;
emphasis on analysis of Supreme Court cases.

POLI:3102 The U.S. Congress 3 s.h.
History of Congress, how congressional elections shape what
legislators do, how laws are made in Congress, rules and
maneuvers that shape these laws, and the future of Congress
as one of the major institutions of American government; gain
an understanding of Congress and why Americans continue to be
confused and fascinated by this complicated branch and its
politics.

POLI:3104 Immigration Politics 3 s.h.
United States immigration policy and political consequences
of Latino population growth; contrast of political experiences
of Latinos with groups and ideals of democratic political
systems; analyses of past immigration policies; studies of
public opinion, voter turnout, and campaign tactics. Same as
LAS:3104, LATS:3104.

POLI:3107 Writing in Political Science: Writing for "Science" and for "Politics" 3 s.h.
Writing for "science" and "politics" of political science;
science writing emphasis on clear explanation to produce
understanding; political writing emphasis on advocacy,
which can highlight, obscure, and "spin" to motivate readers;
evaluation of examples of each writing form; principles that
help clear or obfuscate, explain or persuade, depending on
their purpose; students compose examples of each writing
form.

POLI:3108 American Political Development 3 s.h.
Transformations in American political behavior and institutions
over time.

POLI:3109 Fixing America's Electoral System 3 s.h.
What's wrong with American politics and what can be
done to fix it; overview of major problems facing American
democracy from polarized political parties and money in
politics, to low voter turnout and trust in government, to
growing gap between super rich and middle class; focus on
problem solving, including movement towards digital
politics and new media, participatory democracy, reform
of congressional elections and non-partisan redistricting,
presidential elections (Electoral College), presidential
nomination process, campaign finance, voter registration and
voting, proportional representation. Requirements: no prior
enrollment in POLI:3150 with subtitle Election Reform.

POLI:3110 Local Politics 3 s.h.
Models of city government, relation to state and federal
governments; rights, liabilities of municipalities; city elections,
campaigns, issues; role of pressure groups.

POLI:3111 American Public Policy 3 s.h.
Functions and policies of national government; emphasis on
domestic policy making, impact of public policy.

POLI:3113 Research in Judicial Politics 3 s.h.
Applied research training in courts and judicial politics.
Prerequisites: POLI:3121 or POLI:3120 or POLI:3101.

POLI:3114 Women and Politics in the United States 3 s.h.
Involvement of women in the U.S. political system; topics
include political theories about women's involvement in
politics and government, women and constitutional law, public
policies that affect women, women's participation in politics
at the mass and elite levels.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLI:3116</td>
<td>The Presidency</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Constitutional foundations, subsequent development, current status of the office of the presidency; evolution of presidential selection process; powers, structures, functions of the office; role of president as legislative, executive, and public leader.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3117</td>
<td>Bureaucratic Politics and Public Administration</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Aspects of public administration and bureaucratic politics; topics range from theoretical (e.g., organization theory) to practical (e.g., budgeting).</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3118</td>
<td>Interest Groups</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Theory, organization, and structure of interest groups; how they influence Congress, executive branch, courts, elections.</td>
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<td>POLI:3120</td>
<td>The Criminal Justice System</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Role of actors, institutions that constitute and participate in the American criminal justice system.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3121</td>
<td>The Judicial Process</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Role of courts, lawyers, judges, interest groups in the American political system.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3122</td>
<td>Public Choice</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Introduction to some of the most important topics in public choice (i.e., How do we explain what the public “wants”? Can we determine group preferences and group choices even if individual incentives run contrary to society’s needs?); study of public choice theory problems in political science—how we determine society’s preference among candidates, public policies, or even types of government.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3123</td>
<td>State Politics in Iowa</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Introduction to Iowa government and politics; emphasis on Iowa Constitution, founding and history, political institutions, voting, political parties, mass movements and interest groups; evangelical movement in Iowa, immigration, and Iowa’s role in national politics given the state’s first-in-the-nation caucus.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3124</td>
<td>Political Science Des Moines Internship Program</td>
<td>1-9 s.h.</td>
<td>Supervised professional work experience in government and nongovernment organizations, as well as private industry. Requirements: sophomore or higher standing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3126</td>
<td>Environmental Policy</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Analysis of environmental problems through an interdisciplinary approach drawing from economics, environmental economics, political economy, and political science; how environmental resources differ from other goods that economists study (usually there is no market for them); government policies that are needed to maintain and improve environmental quality; how governments are influenced by voters’ policy preferences and by policy preferences of special interest groups; three main areas of political economy as it relates to environmental policy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3127</td>
<td>Legislative Policy Seminar</td>
<td>arr.</td>
<td>Policy research for the Iowa Legislature.</td>
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<td>POLI:3128</td>
<td>Politics of the U.S. National Park System</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Examination of politics surrounding the U.S. National Park System and other federally managed lands; debates about the founding of the U.S. National Parks system; expansion, environmental effects, and current issues; role of important actors, such as the President, Congress, bureaucracies, land owners, and nongovernmental organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3150</td>
<td>Problems in American Politics</td>
<td>1-3 s.h.</td>
<td>Problems in studying American system; structures, functions, behavior.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3201</td>
<td>Political Campaigning</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Current state of political campaigning at all levels of government; history of campaigning, role of money and campaign finance reform, television and negative advertising, Internet campaigning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3202</td>
<td>Political Psychology</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Political phenomena from psychological perspective; political behaviors of individuals, including decision making by elites and masses, evaluations of political candidates, mass mobilization, response to mass media; psychological concepts including stereotyping, social cognition, attitude, group identification.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3203</td>
<td>Campaigns, Elections, and Voting Behavior</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Determinants of voting behavior; correlates of political participation, political apathy; political socialization processes; nature and functions of elections.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3204</td>
<td>Public Opinion</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Role in making public policy; formation, change of political attitudes and opinions; political ideology; measurement of public opinion; how opinion polls are conducted; experience with interviewing and conducting public opinion research. Same as SOC:3525.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3205</td>
<td>Postmodern Political Theory</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Major writers and intellectual trends, from 19th century to World War II.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3210</td>
<td>Current Political Theory</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Thinkers or schools of thought, from World War II to present.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3203</td>
<td>Political Issues</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Representative topics include democracy, revolution, justice, obligation, technology, authority.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3205</td>
<td>Modern Political Theory</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Major writers and intellectual trends in political thought from Renaissance and Reformation to 19th century.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3206</td>
<td>Problems of Democracy</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Theory and practice of democracy; democratic ideals and the institutions and practices necessary for those ideals to work in everyday politics—power, equality, majority rule, participation, trust, representation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3400</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Economy</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Economic reasoning applied to political issues, including evolution of institutions, voting, leadership, interest groups, bargaining tactics, federalism, bureaucracy, fairness and compensation for wrongs, legitimacy of democracy, electoral cycles in economic policy, revolutions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3410</td>
<td>European Union</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Politics of the European Union; institutional characteristics and major political issues of the European Union, including popular and national responses to European integration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3405</td>
<td>Authoritarian Politics</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Political dynamics in countries with authoritarian governing regimes; how those dynamics differ from their counterparts in democracies; how decisions are reached and get enforced; forms political struggles take; how interest groups pursue influence; ways individuals deal with the government; tension between regime control and societal progress.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI:3408</td>
<td>Chinese Politics and Society</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
<td>Comprehensive introduction to modern Chinese history; current Chinese political system and political culture; public policy issues.</td>
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POLI:3410 Russian Foreign Policy 3 s.h.
Russia’s behavior as a major economic, military, and diplomatic power in the world and what shapes that behavior; Russians’ perceptions of other countries; Russian national interests; capabilities and domestic political dynamics; implications for foreign policy of the United States and other countries.

POLI:3411 Democracy: Global Trends and Struggles 3 s.h.
Diverse contemporary understandings and practices of democracy; worldwide democratization trends; what political, economic, cultural and transnational factors shape those trends; how elites and citizens struggle to promote or retard democracy; the news full of people around the world taking action to demand democracy and what this term, so highly prized, really means; what is known about when democracy will replace authoritarianism; how can democracies more fully live up to their promise.

POLI:3413 Russian Politics 3 s.h.
Institutions and processes of governing this large political power; Russian political dynamics, including struggles to unify or diversify power; political responses to major economic, technical, and social challenges. Recommendations: POLI:1401.

POLI:3418 Governance in the Middle East 3 s.h.
Institutions and social systems that are affected by political behavior; ways in which Islam, oil production, and international forces shape political evolution in the region; comparative political inquiry of the operation of government institutions in the context of specific historical legacies, economic structures, and population characteristics in Iran, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey, Saudi Arabia.

POLI:3419 War in the Muslim World 3 s.h.
Foundations, evolutions, and outcomes of recent wars in the Middle East; primary focus on insurgencies in Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq, together with Arab-Israel conflict; Sunni-Shiite, Jewish-Arab, Arab-Kurd cleavages; military activities of international forces; rise of insurgent forces (i.e., the Taliban); Al Qaeda alliance; shadow governments; institutions of governance; strategies and ideologies of oppositional organizations. Requirements: no prior enrollment in POLI:3450 with subtitle War in the Muslim World.

POLI:3420 Southeast Asia: Politics and Development 3 s.h.
Eleven states of Southeast Asia; governance, development strategies, domestic politics, approach to democracy and national identity; regional politics and important transnational issues; role of ASEAN, terrorism, trans-Pacific trade and investment issues, China’s looming presence, impact of ongoing and historic conflicts; briefings, discussions, presentations.

POLI:3421 Southern Africa: Development and Governance 3 s.h.
Comparative approach to politics of ten countries in the Southern Africa region; mineral riches, substantial agricultural resources, millions of hard working and talented people; poverty, underdevelopment, and inequality; varied paths toward development; mosaic of ethnic, religious, and regional groups that impact domestic and regional politics; politics analyzed at regional, state, and sub-state level.

POLI:3422 Horn of Africa: Politics and Transnational Issues 3 s.h.
Eight states in the Horn of Africa region; important transnational and regional issues; governance, development strategies, domestic politics, social and civic dynamics of countries in the region; wildlife trafficking, piracy, fight against HIV/AIDS, imprint of colonialism, secession, ethnic and national identities, democratization, role of women in society, impact of ongoing and historic conflicts; briefings, discussions, presentations.

POLI:3423 The Middle East: Policy and Diplomacy 3 s.h.
Nineteen states and entities of North Africa and the Middle East; issues of governance, development strategies, domestic politics, and approach to democracy and national identity; regional politics and important transnational issues; role of political Islam; impacts of the Arab Spring, terrorism, oil, role of women in society, ongoing and historic conflicts; briefings, discussions, presentations.

POLI:3424 Global Development 3 s.h.
Exploration of political and social causes and consequences of economic development; two important questions asked—Why are some countries rich while others are poor? What can be done to encourage growth in underdeveloped countries?

POLI:3425 South Asia: Politics, Identity, and Conflict 3 s.h.
Survey of the eight countries in the South Asia region; examination of governance in the eight countries; students explore the interaction of politics, identity, and conflict within and across the regional states; ethnic, religious, caste, class, and other identities that have long competed for primacy with national identities in South Asia, sometimes leading to armed conflict within countries and sometimes sparking war between countries, and the question—Am I first a Sri Lankan or a Tamil? What do I feel like most?

POLI:3450 Problems in Comparative Politics 3 s.h.
Structures, functions, behaviors of different political systems.

POLI:3500 American Foreign Policies 3 s.h.
Ends pursued, problems encountered, means employed by the United States in relations with other states and international organizations.

POLI:3501 International Organization and World Order 3 s.h.
Different conceptualizations of world order; multiple sources of world order including force, power, norms, international institutions; International order and main sources; question peace being the same as world order.

POLI:3502 Politics and the Multinational Enterprise 3 s.h.
Operations of multinational business enterprises; relationship between business and politics; focus on corporations interacting with sovereign states, other companies, interest groups, international governmental organizations (IGOs), and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

POLI:3503 Politics of Terrorism 3 s.h.
Strategies of terrorists, insurgents, guerrillas, and other non-state actors; terrorists’ use of the media; suicide attacks; al Qaeda and the U.S.-led War on Terrorism; counterinsurgency and counter-terrorism; self-starters and transnational terrorist networks; drone strikes and data-mining operations as counter-terrorism tools and the associated political controversies.
POLI:3504 Globalization 3 s.h.
Introduction to multidisciplinary literature on political economy and culture of globalization; major topics of debate on globalization.

POLI:3505 Civil Wars 3 s.h.
Causes, duration, management, and consequences of civil war; factors that create more frequent, longer civil wars (e.g., greed, grievance, ethnic conflict, state capacity); conflict management strategies for ending civil wars and minimizing long-term negative consequences.

POLI:3506 Consequences of War 3 s.h.
War's enduring effects: war's impact on individuals, including combatants and noncombatants; war's impact on states, including states' development, economic, political, and social effects; war's effects on the international system.

POLI:3509 International Courts: The Intersection of Law and Politics 3 s.h.
Introduction to important international courts including (Permanent) International Court of Justice, European Court of Justice, International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia, and International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda; the formation, design, and expansion of international courts from political and legal perspectives; states' capabilities, regime type, and war; intersection of domestic and international law, emphasizing the major legal systems in the world (civil law, common law, Islamic law).

POLI:3511 International Law 3 s.h.
Introduction to field of international law from a political and legal perspective; history and contemporary status of international law in several areas: human rights, humanitarian (law of war), environmental law, trade; structure and areas of international law; ask if international law is or can it be an effective tool of international cooperation from a political science perspective; structure of the basic documents of international law and organizations, key cases in the field from a legal perspective. Requirements: no prior enrollment in POLI:3550 with subtitle International Law.

POLI:3512 International Conflict 3 s.h.
International conflict as the primary ingredient of international politics; sources, causes, and effects of conflict, alliance structures, power distribution, geography, arms races, deterrence.

POLI:3513 Politics of International Human Rights Law 3 s.h.
Interaction between politics and international human rights law; international law and organizations, human rights, ratification of human rights treaties; theories of international law and cooperation, exposure to tools of international relations (diplomacy, trade, aid, shaming, sanctions), the role that international and domestic civil society groups play in advocating for states to commit to human rights laws.

POLI:3514 Regional Peace and Security 3 s.h.
Analysis of the causes of peace and conflict between countries in various regions of the world; theories of zones of peace, security communities, regional security complexes.

POLI:3515 Global Communication and Politics 3 s.h.
How distance and language barriers in communication have fallen since 2000; how politics and the world are affected when such barriers to communication disappear.

POLI:3516 The Politics of International Economics 3 s.h.
Politics of international trade and financial systems, including rise of free trade in 19th century and breakdown between the two world wars, postwar trading system framed around the World Trade Organization, different types of international monetary systems, relations between rich countries and poor countries, and global environmental politics.

POLI:3517 Global Justice 3 s.h.
Introduction to normative issues in international politics (i.e., Under what conditions are wars just? When is intervention justified? Do wealthier nations owe anything to those elsewhere who are in need?); theoretical works on global justice by Rawls, Kant, Pogge, Walzer, and others; normative theories analyzed against background of empirical examples, such as recent humanitarian interventions, contemporary wars, current trade regime, global environmental problems; seminar. Requirements: no prior enrollment in POLI:3550 with subtitle Global Justice.

POLI:3518 Water Wars: Conflict and Cooperation 3 s.h.
How climate change may aggravate shortage of freshwater in water-stressed regions, producing warnings of conflict over international river basins or "water wars"; recent U.S. intelligence assessment notes that water may be used as a weapon between or within states, or to further terrorist aims in the future; management of international water resources including conflicts over cross-border rivers and maritime areas; common property resources, piracy, maritime security, peaceful and militarized conflict management of water-based conflicts, climate issues, natural disasters, United Nations Law of the Sea Convention.

POLI:3519 Politics of Aging 3 s.h.
Core concepts and methods related to aging and policies that address the needs of older persons; demographic measures of population health and aging, including incidence and distribution of specific conditions relevant in older age; theories of public policy and involvement of older persons in the political process; key historical and current policies, at both the federal and state/local levels, that influence service provision and the well-being of older persons in the United States. Same as ASP:3519.

POLI:3520 National Security Policy 3 s.h.
Nuclear weapons and deterrence, credible commitments, value of emphasizing sea power or land power, strategic differences between symmetric and asymmetric conflict, information and intelligence, domestic politics and use of force abroad, United Nations Security Council and international law, role of private military contractors, and integration of armed forces by race, gender, and sexual orientation.

POLI:3521 Twenty-first-Century Technology and Warfare 3 s.h.
Interplay between technological change and military strategy; changes in warfare brought about by information revolution; cyber weapons and other features of war in computer age; unmanned systems including aerial drones and ground-based robots; moral considerations associated with military robotics; anti-missile systems; predicting future changes in technology and military strategy.
POLI:3522 Ending Wars and Keeping Peace 3 s.h.
When are international and civil wars ripe for resolution? What determines intervention strategies for third parties, and why do attempts at conflict resolution so frequently fail? Students will investigate these questions and consider the processes by which conflicts reach cease-fires and peace agreements, why some agreements last when others do not, and what can be done to make peace more durable; considering post-conflict societies and the lingering problems they face; topics include peacekeeping, mediation, the role of regional and international organizations, and post-conflict justice.

POLI:3523 Non-State Violent Actors 3 s.h.
Emergence, organization, behavior, and demise of violent non-state actors, including rebel groups, terrorist organizations, and drug cartels; focus on recent academic research on non-state violent actors, as well as current events.

POLI:3550 Problems of International Politics 3 s.h.
Problems in studying international system, structures, functions, behavior.

POLI:3600 Multimedia Politics 3 s.h.
How increasingly universal access to communication affects political campaigning and advocacy; the use of blogging, video, and developing communication media by citizens and candidates to talk politics.

POLI:3601 Politics of Film 3 s.h.
Issues in the popular politics of aesthetics, communication, culture, and myth, explored through analysis of films.

POLI:3602 New Media and Politics 3 s.h.
Blogging, microblogging, and video production as tools of new media (anyone can twitter and reach a large audience); how these technologies work, how they are being used in current politics, what they portend for the future, and what tools are next. Requirements: no prior enrollment in POLI:3303 with subtitle New Media and Politics.

POLI:3603 War and Film 3 s.h.
Exploration of one of the most significant political phenomena, war, as it is represented and understood through film; various film genres including classic war films, historical and historical fiction, documentary (e.g., Battle of Algiers, Triumph of the Will, Invisible War), comedy-drama (e.g., Life Is Beautiful), and dark comedy or satire (e.g., The Mouse that Roared, Tropic Thunder); scholarly writings on international conflict; students discover and investigate themes related to nature of war, its underlying causes, and its consequences.

POLI:3604 New Media and Public Opinion 3 s.h.
How do citizens give voice to their interest in and concerns about governing? New media and public opinion, measured by surveys, supplement each other, each with strengths and weaknesses; parallel moves of the two in elections and when important political decisions are being made.

POLI:3700 Strategy in Politics 3 s.h.
How to isolate the most important elements in strategic political behavior, build models to understand them, recognize common scenarios, devise institutional resolutions to the Prisoners' Dilemma and coordination problems.

POLI:3701 Special Topics in Politics 1-2 s.h.
Presentations by distinguished lecturers on topics in the study of politics not covered in other courses. One or two weeks.

POLI:4000 Honors Seminar on the Study of Politics 3 s.h.
Selected topics in philosophy, theory, and methods for the systematic study of politics; foundations of scientific inquiry, including processes of theory building, concept formation, and hypotheses testing; political research; challenges faced when conducting good political science; questions of research design, measurement accuracy, and sample selection; application of multivariate research process. Requirements: honors standing in political science.

POLI:4050 Two Koreas: Political Economy of Regional Rivalry 3 s.h.
Introduction to the Korean peninsula; focus on nature of North and South Korean regional rivalry and its global impacts; theoretical and historical explanations; various security issues including North Korean nuclear threat, military alliances, and reunification prospects; economic issues including differential growth paths, South Korea's rapid growth, and recent economic woes in both Koreas. Same as KORE:4050.

POLI:4100 Honors Seminar on American Politics 3 s.h.
Ideas, issues, methods in selected area. Requirements: junior or senior honors standing in political science.

POLI:4300 Honors Seminar on Political Theory 3 s.h.
Intensive study of ideas, issues, methods in an area of political theory. Requirements: junior or senior honors standing in political science.

POLI:4400 Honors Seminar on Comparative Politics 3 s.h.
Exploration of a selected topic in comparative politics, its cross-national patterns, strategies used to study it, and major debates among scholars; study of politics by comparing two or more countries or other political units; new light on how societies are divided on major issues (whether state regulation of economy or role of religion in society), how people behave politically (from voting to demonstrations to revolution), role played by political institutions (e.g., legislatures, courts, political parties). Requirements: junior or senior honors standing in political science.

POLI:4500 Honors Seminar on International Relations 3 s.h.
Ideas, issues, methods in selected area. Requirements: junior or senior honors standing in political science.

POLI:4600 Honors Research Project 3 s.h.
Special research assistance to political science faculty. Requirements: junior or senior honors standing in political science.

POLI:4601 Honors Senior Thesis 3 s.h.
Supervised research and writing. Requirements: honors standing in political science and more than one semester before graduation.

POLI:4700 Independent Study arr.
Supervised special projects.

POLI:4701 Undergraduate Research Tutorial 3 s.h.
Individual training in applied research.

POLI:4702 Senior Research Project/Paper 3 s.h.
Supervised research and writing. Requirements: political science major and more than one semester before graduation.
POLI:4800 Senior Seminar in International Relations
Completion of final research project as a culmination of student's work in the major; research supervised by a faculty member; required for international relations major. Recommendations: taken during one of student's final two semesters at the University of Iowa.

POLI:4801 Honors Senior Seminar in International Relations
Honors capstone course for international relations majors.

POLI:4802 International Relations Senior Seminar Prep
Preparation for international relations senior seminar.

POLI:4900 Government and Politics Internship
Undergraduate internships in state or national legislative office, executive agency, or with election campaign office.

POLI:5000 Introduction to Political Analysis
Conceptual problems of political analysis; empirical research strategies, philosophy of science. Requirements: M.A. or Ph.D. standing in political science.

POLI:5001 Introductory Methodology
Introduction to quantitative techniques in political science; set theory, probability distributions, estimation, testing; emphasis on acquiring mathematical skills for more advanced quantitative work in political science. Requirements: M.A. or Ph.D. standing in political science. Same as IGPI:5001.

POLI:5003 Intermediate Methodology
Techniques of data analysis; statistical models and their relationship to hypotheses tested. Requirements: doctoral standing in political science and one semester of intermediate statistics.

POLI:5100 American Politics
Major literature of American politics, emphasis on comparative, systemic, behavioral studies. Requirements: M.A. or Ph.D. standing in political science.

POLI:5300 Political Theory
Methods of political theory, epistemological and moral foundations of political inquiry; terms of political discourse (e.g., power, legitimacy, equality, ideological foundations of politics); schools of thought and current controversies in political theory. Requirements: M.A. or Ph.D. standing in political science.

POLI:5400 Comparative Politics
Conceptual, theoretical, and methodological issues in comparative study of politics; developments in comparative politics subfield. Requirements: M.A. or Ph.D. standing in political science.

POLI:5500 International Politics
Approaches to study of international politics. Requirements: M.A. or Ph.D. standing in political science.

POLI:5700 Introduction to Formal Models in Political Science
Use of formal mathematical models; current modeling techniques, applications in American politics, comparative politics, international politics. Requirements: M.A. or Ph.D. standing in political science.

POLI:6625 Crossing Borders Seminar

POLI:7001 Experimental Methods
Methods, techniques used in political science experiments.

POLI:7002 Topics Methodology
Application of advanced statistical techniques in political science; limited dependent variable regression techniques, simulation methods, missing data techniques, history/rare event analysis and maximum likelihood, and topics tailored to students' research; focus on learning how and when to apply these techniques.

POLI:7003 Advanced Methodology
Introduction to regression techniques for limited dependent and qualitative variables in political science; logit, probit, multinomial logit and probit, ordered logit and probit, event history models, event count models; emphasis on understanding how and when to apply these models.

POLI:7004 Qualitative Methods
Introduction to qualitative methods in political science research; interviewing, ethnographic research, process tracing, comparative historical analysis, content and discourse analysis, fuzzy set theory.

POLI:7100 Modeling American Politics
Exploration of how well formal models explain the real world and how the fit between models and world can be improved.

POLI:7102 The Presidency
American chief executive: history, recruitment, behavior, roles, responsibilities, powers, relationships with other institutions.

POLI:7150 Problems in American Politics
Problems in study of American political system; structures, functions, behavior.

POLI:7201 Political Psychology
Political phenomena from a psychological perspective; decision making by elites and masses, evaluations of political candidates, mass mobilization, response to mass media; psychological theories used to explain these behaviors, including stereotyping, social cognition, attitude, group identification, attribution.

POLI:7202 Public Opinion and Electoral Behavior
Political attitudes and beliefs in mass publics; voting behavior; how electoral systems function.

POLI:7350 Problems in Political Theory
Prescriptive and explanatory political theory.

POLI:7409 Democratization and Authoritarianism
Rival understandings and practices of democracy and authoritarianism, including challenges of quantifying them for comparative analyses; major theoretical and empirical approaches to studying democratization and other forms of regime change.

POLI:7423 Comparative Parties and Elections
Introduction to important questions and puzzles in the study of political parties; party formation and development, the role of parties in society, how parties are organized, party systems, electoral systems, party strategy and behavior, development of new parties, whether parties are still relevant, regeneration of communist parties in post-communist regimes, ethnic parties, failure of party consolidation.

POLI:7450 Problems of Comparative Politics
Problems in study of comparative political systems; structures, functions, behavior.

POLI:7500 Foreign Policy
Foreign policy making and international behavior in relation to theories, findings from selected countries.
POLI:7502 International Systems and Global Governance 4 s.h.
Literature of international systems and international organization; major schools of thought in international relations theory, their utility in explaining evolution of the international system and recent developments in international organization and global governance.

POLI:7503 International Conflict and Cooperation 4 s.h.
Recent theoretical and empirical debates in international relations literature; emphasis on formal and quantitative research.

POLI:7504 Theories of International Political Economy 1-4 s.h.
Theories focusing on international system, the state, bureaucracies, interest groups, international organizations, bargaining processes, distributive norms.

POLI:7550 Problems in International Politics 4 s.h.
Issues of international politics, emphasis on problems of theoretical analysis.

POLI:7701 Dynamic Models of International Politics 2-4 s.h.
Overview of several dynamic modeling techniques used to study international relations; modeling assumptions, the kinds of information models can provide, evaluation of models.

POLI:7900 Readings Tutorial arr.
Independent study.

POLI:7901 Research Tutorial arr.
Individual training in applied research.